



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Murali Duvvury

Serial No. 09/452,284

Filed: November 30, 1999

For: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
AUTOMATIC CLUSTER NETWORK
DEVICE ADDRESS ASSIGNMENT**

) Art Unit:

) Examiner:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

On 1/12/00 Diane Morse
Date Diane Morse

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the Drawings

A proposed amendment to Figure 18 is marked in red ink and submitted herewith along with a replacement copy of the proposed amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)(3)(ii). It is submitted that in doing so no new matter has been introduced by any of these amendments.

Figure 18 has been amended to correct a clerical error whereby the output labels of decision boxes 1805, 1840, and 1880 were inadvertently reversed. The proposed amendment to Figure 18 corrects this error and makes the Figure agree with the text in the patent specification (see page 41, line 5 to page 42, line 14).

The attorney's Docket Number is CISCO-1656. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
D'ALESSANDRO & RITCHIE



Reynaldo C. Barceló
Reg. No. 42,290

Dated: January 10, 2000

D'Alessandro & Ritchie
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, CA 95164-0640
(408) 441-1100, ext. 114